CAIAK 7009 Cracing Your in Canada



TRACING YOUR ANCESTORS IN CANADA

Revised in July 1981
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Public Archives Canada

Archives publiques Canada

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INTRODUCTION

The Public Archives of Canada was founded in 1872. In addition to serving as a repository for federal government records of historical value, the Archives has acted as a storehouse for copies of documents relating to Canadian history in the possession of other governments (principally France and Great Britain) and for the papers of individuals who played a significant part in Canadian affairs.

The functions of the Archives are threefold: to acquire material of historical interest, to preserve this material and to make it available to researchers. This last function, which is of special interest to the genealogist, may sometimes be subject to restrictions placed upon the use of documents by the originating department or donor. The sources described in this pamphlet are those most frequently used by genealogists. Other sources that may be of value are described briefly in our published inventories.

Genealogical services of the Public Archives of Canada are confined to the identification of potential source material in response to specific inquiries, within the limitations of available staff. Persons unable to undertake their own research at the Archives or through microfilm loans are referred to professional researchers.

Getting Started

Best results are achieved by those best prepared for their investigations. They begin by assembling all available clues: family anecdotes, entries in bibles, wills and certificates, etc. The local library is then visited to learn what handbooks and guides will offer about research methods and archival holdings and facilities. Genealogical societies, with their accumulations of experience and knowledge of available sources, must not be overlooked. Many societies organize seminars and workshops at which the beginner can learn about methods and sources, how to get more results faster.

The researcher will now know something about what records have been created, where they are preserved, what information may be derived from them, and most importantly, how to formulate clear questions in the course of the

investigation. The Public Archives is unable to undertake to determine family relationships when the information given in the documents is unclear, and cannot respond to vague, general questions.

Microfilm Loans

Many popular genealogical sources are available on microfilm. No single catalogue lists them all. Special catalogues and checklists have been prepared for certain types of material, such as census returns and parish registers. Researchers may consult the films at the Public Archives of Canada or through the interlibrary loan arrangement. Any institution possessing a microfilm reader and participating in the loan arrangement may borrow the reels on their behalf. Requests for loans must be submitted to the Public Archives of Canada by the borrowing institution, on authorized forms, clearly specifying the sources and volumes required. The Public Archives makes no charges for loans of its holdings.

The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick and the Saskatchewan Archives are the only other archival institutions in Canada presently offering interlibrary loan of microfilm holdings. However, many researchers find that the Genealogical Society of Utah can provide a substitute through the microfilm loan facilities of the branch libraries established by the Mormon church. A fee is charged to cover the costs of postage and handling of each microfilm reel. Many land records, parish registers and probate court files, among other genealogical sources in the custody of provincial and local authorities in Canada, can be consulted on microfilm loan through these Mormon facilities. The most recent listings can be obtained by directing an inquiry to the Society or to the branch library nearest you.

Photoduplication

For a modest charge, the Public Archives is able to provide xerox copies of original documents and reader-printer copies from microfilm. Copyright or access restrictions may prohibit reproduction of some collections. Limitations on the amounts copied are imposed when demands exceed the capacities of the Archives facilities and backlogs develop.

Referrals

The Archives maintains a list of persons willing to perform genealogical research for a fee. While there is no guarantee on the quality of their work, their familiarity with Archives holdings has been investigated and their services are recommended to persons unable to conduct their own research.

Visiting the Archives

The Archives observes regular office hours, Monday to Friday, when consultant services are provided. Reading Rooms, equipped with microfilm readers, are open to accredited students and researchers seven days a week throughout the year, including public holidays. A personal visit must be paid during office hours to obtain a research pass for access to the reading rooms. Researchers are encouraged to come as early as possible in the day so as to take full advantage of available reference services.

The most popular sources for genealogical research in Canada may be divided into the following categories: census records, vital statistics (records of births, marriages and deaths), land records, wills, military records and immigration records. Each of these categories is described in some detail in the pages that follow. A booklet such as this cannot provide exhaustive listings. Therefore, we offer some recommendations of published sources in which detailed information about genealogical research and archival holdings can be found.

PUBLISHED SOURCES

Your local library is the best point of departure in any search. What they do not have they can borrow for you to consult through the interlibrary loan arrangement. To learn how to look and where to search, consult such volumes as Angus Baxter, In Search of Your Roots (1978), Jeanne Grégoire, Guide du généalogiste: à la recherche de nos ancêtres (1974), and Eric L. Jonasson, The Canadian Genealogical Handbook (second edition, 1978). Whatever the publication consulted, keep in mind that fees, addresses and other data may alter after the printing and that

errors do occur. The newsletters, journals and other publications of genealogical societies often provide the most up to date information. There are also specialized guides to sources by type and by location, as well as techniques, such as E. Kay Kirkham's extremely helpful How to Read the Handwriting and Records of Early America (1964).

Geographical Information

Next most important after knowledge of methods for research is an understanding of geography. Gazetteers are available for each province, clarifying the identity and location of each place name. Postal directories also help in determining whether a name refers to a village or a township and exactly where it was located. Names which have been changed can be traced through the Toponymy Division of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, 615 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ont., KIA 0E9. Ideas on the use of maps can be found by reading Betty M. Kidd's article "Maps in Genealogical Research", published in the Ontario Genealogical Society journal Families (vol. 16, no. 4, pages 152-165).

City, county and provincial directories, dating back to the 1840s for some areas, generally offer little beyond an individual's name, address and occupation or status. Nonetheless, they can be particularly helpful in determining the most promising city ward or enumeration districts to be checked in the census returns. They are useful to clarify approximate year of arrival in an area, and of departure or death. Since many directories were published by subscription, their coverage is far from complete. The many town, township and county histories are more helpful in supplying information about the early settlement of a region and identifying the location of source materials for further study. Barbara B. Aitken produced Local Histories of Ontario Municipalities, 1951-1977: A Bibliography, with locations of copies identified for both printed and unprinted works in 1978. Other bibliographies may be available to help you.

County atlases, where they were produced, offer further assistance to the genealogists who know the county and township in which an individual was settled. A series of these atlases was published in the 1870s and 1880s, covering

mainly Prince Edward Island, Ontario, the Eastern Townships of Quebec and scattered counties of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The volume gives the names of landholders or tenants on each lot, sketches of communities and biographical notes on the prominent citizens, with occasional portraits. The Public Archives of Canada published County Atlases of Canada: A Descriptive Catalogue (1970) to serve as a guide. The areas not covered in these atlases may be described in other publications and in maps available at provincial and municipal archives, museums and libraries.

Specialized Guides

For the loyalists, there are a number of studies available. Both Esther Clark Wright's Loyalists of New Brunswick (1965) and Marion Gilroy's Loyalists and Land Settlement in Nova Scotia (1937) are based on land records in the provincial archives and identify the individual heads of families. W.D. Reid's monograph Loyalists of Ontario, Sons and Daughters of American Loyalists of Upper Canada (1973) offers more biographical detail. The United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada maintains branch libraries and may be able to offer further help. The "Bibliography of Loyalist Source Material in Canada", published in the Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society (vol. 82, 1972), though troubled in inaccuracies and omissions, is still useful.

Researchers interested in Acadian ancestry can find help in the works of Bona Arsenault: L'Acadie des ancêtres; avec la généalogie des pre mières fa milles acadiennes and Histoire et généalogie des Acadiens (6 volumes, 1978). Arrangement of both works is regional, with alphabetical listings. Also of use is Placide Gaudet's sixteen-volume study Généalogies acadiennes and the Inventaire général des sources documentaires sur les Acadiens produced by the Centre d'Etudes acadiennes at the Université de Moncton. The special collections at Moncton should not be overlooked.

Further coverage of settlement in the Maritimes is offered by Robert Fellow's Researching Your Ancestors in New Brunswick (1979) and Terrence M. Punch's Genealogical Research in Nova Scotia (1978).

For families of French origin, the standard source is Cyprien Tanguay's Dictionnaire généalogique des familles canadiennes (7 volumes, 1871-1890), supplemented by Joseph Arthur Lebœuf's Complément au dictionnaire généalogique Tanguay (3 volumes, 1957-1964). Antoine Roy published his "Bibliographie de généalogies et histoires de familles" in the Rapport de l'archiviste de la province de Québec for 1940-41. The Institut généalogique Drouin published a Dictionnaire national des Canadiens français, 1608-1760 (3 volumes, 1965) while Archange Godbout produced Nos ancêtres aux XVIIe siècle: dictionnaire généalogique et biobibliographique des familles canadiennes (1955 -

). The Mémoires de la société généalogique canadienne-française (1944 to date) and the Bulletin des recherches historiques (1895-1961) should not be overlooked. Of special note are the publications of the Archives nationales du Québec, in particular the Inventaire des greffes des notaires du régime français and the Inventaire des contrats de mariage sous le régime français. The Programme de recherche en démographie historique (P.R.D.H.) of the Universite de Montréal is publishing a Répertoire des actes de baptême, mariage, sépulture et des recensements du Québec ancien (1980 -).

Biographies and Family Histories

A host of biographical reference works offer information about prominent individuals of the past. Among these are the British, American and Canadian editions of Who's Who; the British Dictionary of National Biography and the Dictionary of Canadian Biography currently in production; W.S. Wallace's Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Henry Morgan's Canadian Men and Women of the Time (1898 and 1912 editions), and L. LeJeune's Dictionnaire général du Canada (2 volumes, 1931).

A growing number of family histories are being produced (not all in published format). Kathleen M. de Varennes produced an Annotated Bibliography of Genealogical Works in the Library of Parliament (with locations in other libraries in Canada) in 1963. The Ontario Genealogical Society has a bibliography of its collection to 1977 and other such societies have catalogues of their holdings.

The names of federal civil servants are listed in the Civil Service List dating from 1883 to 1918, with a few volumes from earlier years, all but the earliest of which are indexed. Birth date, rank or status, current salary and date of appointment can be found in these volumes. For many years, the federal government also published in the Sessional Papers a list of all those retired civil servants receiving superannuation. Death dates are often recorded, as well as years of service and place of residence.

Our Canadian Parliamentary Companion, later known as the Parliamentary Guide, dates from 1862; these little volumes are extremely useful, giving succinct accounts of the antecedents and careers of both federal and provincial members in the various legislatures.

Specialized Lists

The first British Army Lists were produced in 1661 but indexes appear only from the 1760s. They are helpful in tracing officers who served with regular units. Arrangement is by regiment or unit, with only the name, rank and date of commission given. The Canadian Militia Lists date from 1851 and offer similar information regarding officers of the Militia. The British Sea Officers or Navy Lists serve similarly for the Royal Navy. Regimental histories can be consulted to learn details of the service of military units in Canada and their uniforms, as well as places and methods of recruitment.

CENSUS RECORDS

Census records contain the official enumeration of our population. There are four basic types of returns: aggregate, those recording the names of heads of families, nominal and agricultural. Census returns prior to 1851 are usually either aggregate or enumerate only heads of families. Aggregate returns contain no names, but merely numbers of persons within various age groups, religious denominations, countries of origin and locations. The other type of early returns generally listed heads of households, with details as to size of the family, acreage in the case of a farmer, or the occupation, trade or profession of the householder. The census re-

turns for 1851, 1861, 1871 and 1881 are generally nominal, listing each person individually, with details as to age, sex, country or province of birth, religion, racial origin, occupation, marital status, education and physical disabilities where applicable. There are also some agricultural returns, which again list heads of households, give lot and concession number of the farm, and provide considerable detail such as acreage under cultivation, acreage in each crop, and cash value of implements and stock. Microfilm of the 1871 census includes all 9 surviving schedules: nominal, agricultural, industrial, etc.

A catalogue of census returns is available from Printing and Publishing, Supply and Services Canada, Mail Order Service, 45 Sacré-Coeur, Hull, Oué., K1A 0S9 (catalogue number SA 2-95/1981). The catalogue lists the names of villages, towns, townships and counties alphabetically within each province, with direct references to the microfilm reels on which the returns appear. This edition of the catalogue includes the 1881 census returns and those pre-1825 records which are readily found on microfilm. In-house guides will continue to serve in locating the records which are not on microfilm and of such fragmentary nature as to need special identification and description.

Census records, particularly of the nominal type, constitute a valuable and frequently consulted genealogical source. However, the researcher must know the approximate locality as the arrangement of these returns is generally by township within each county. Small towns and villages are enumerated within their respective townships; larger towns and cities are listed separately. In the case of cities, particularly the larger centres, it is very helpful to know the ward or section in which the person lived. We do not have nominal indexes to our census records but some provincial archives have indexes to census records in their custody, and many genealogical societies are indexing the returns for their regions.

The following list identifies the census returns available on microfilm at the Public Archives of Canada and through interlibrary loan. Fragmentary returns have not been included here. Provincial archives and many regional library systems have acquired copies of the most popular series, to serve you better locally.

Province	Year	Type of Census
Plaisance only	1691 1693 1704 1671 1673 1698 1706	N N HF N HF HF
ACADIA	1671 1686 1693 1698 1701 1703 1707 1714	N N N N N HF HF
Île Royale & Île St-Jean Île Royale & Île St-Jean Rivière St-Jean	1739 1734 1752 1739	HF HF N HF
NOVA SCOTIA	1770-1771	HF
(Incomplete) (Incomplete)	1785-1787 1791-1795 1817-1818 1827 1838 1861 1871 1881	HF HF HF HF HF N
Cape Breton only Halifax city & county, King's county only	1811 1851	HF HF
DDINGE EDWARD ISLAN	ID.	
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAN	1798 1841 1861 1881	HF* HF HF
NEW BRUNSWICK	1851 1861 1871 1881	N N N

Province	Year	Type of Census
QUÉBEC	1666 1667 1681 1825 1831 1842 1851 1861 1871	N N HF HF N N N
ONTARIO (Incomplete) (Incomplete)	1842 1848 1850 1851 1861 1871	HF HF N N N N
MANITOBA Assiniboia and Red River " " " " " "	1832 1834 1835 1840 1843 1846 1849 1870	HF HF HF HF HF HF N
SASKATCHEWAN (as a territory)	1881	N
ALBERTA (as a territory)	1881	N
BRITISH COLUMBIA	1881	N

Symbol N denotes nominal returns listing all

members of households.
Symbol HF denotes returns listing heads of families only.

Symbol * denotes not available on microfilm.

Voters Lists

Records of the Chief Electoral Officer for Canada (Record Group 113) include lists of voters prepared for federal elections from 1935 to 1974. These are available on microfilm. While they give only the name and address of an individual, they are a useful proof that a person was alive and resident in a certain place at the time in question.

Some provincial archives hold poll books for elections in the nineteenth century, but their usefulness is limited by the small proportion of the population then qualified to vote.

RECORDS OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Records of births, marriages and deaths constitute a key source for genealogical information. Recent records are in the custody of the various provincial governments. The civil registration of vital statistics did not become the general practice in Canada until it was undertaken as a provincial responsibility late in the nineteenth century. Before that time the only likely source for such information is local church records and to locate these the denomination and the parish or mission district must be known.

Provincial Offices

The following provincial and territorial offices are in charge of civil registration and have records covering the periods indicated. Inquiries should be addressed directly to the respective offices.

Newfoundland: Civil registration began in 1892. The records are in the custody of the Registrar General, Vital Statistics Division, Department of Health, Confederation Building, St. John's, Nfld., AIC 5T7. Fees: \$2.00 for search; \$5.00 for search and certificate. For earlier years the only source is church records, which are numerous for the period 1860-1891, though some date from the 1820s. The Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador can supply information about them.

Nova Scotia: Records of births and deaths, 1865-1908, and of marriages from the late 1700s are held by the Public Archives of Nova Scotia. Records of births and deaths after 1 October 1908 and marriages after 1907-1918 (depending on the county) are with the Deputy Registrar General, Department of Health, PO Box 157, Halifax, N.S., B3J 2M9. Fees: \$2.00 for search; \$5.00 for search and certificate.

Prince Edward Island: Civil registration began in 1906, but there are some marriage records dating back to 1787 and some baptismal records from many P.E.I. churches from 1800. Records are in the custody of the Director, Division of Vital Statistics, Department of Health and Social Services, PO Box 3000, Charlottetown, P.E.I., C1A 7P1. Fees: \$1.00 for search; \$3.00 for search and certificate.

New Brunswick: The Registrar General, Vital Statistics Division, PO Box 6000, Fredericton, N.B., E3B 5H1, has complete records from 1920 and incomplete records for 1888-1920. A few county records prior to that date have been retained. Fees: certificate, \$3.00; search only, \$2.00; genealogical search, \$10.00.

Québec: Since the early seventeenth century, clergymen have been required to keep duplicate registers, one of which is retained in the parish where the event occurred, while the other is deposited in the office of one of the 34 district protonotaries. The protonotaries' copies of registers more than 100 years old are deposited in the appropriate one of the nine regional offices of the Archives nationales du Québec. Extracts from the registers may be obtained directly from the parish or, depending on the age of the record, by writing to the district protonotary or to the regional office of the provincial archives. The cost varies from \$2.00 to \$3.00. The Public Archives of Canada is unable to direct researchers to a central office.

Ontario: Civil registration began 1 July 1869. Address inquiries to the Deputy Registrar General, MacDonald Block, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ont., M7A 1Y5. Fee \$5.00

Manitoba: The Office of Vital Statistics, Department of Community Services, and Corrections, Room 104, Norquay Building, 401 York Avenue, Winnipeg, Man., R3C 0V8, has complete records from 1882, together with some incomplete church records prior to that date

(searched when the denomination is known). Fees: \$5.00 for certificate, \$7.00 for geneal-ogical search.

Saskatchewan: Vital Statistics, Department of Health, 3475 Albert Street, Regina, Sask., S4S 6X6, holds complete records from 1920, with incomplete records for 1878-1920. Fee \$5.00.

Alberta: Complete records from 1898, with some birth records from 1853 onward and death records from 1893 are now in the custody of the Division of Vital Statistics, Department of Social Services and Community Health, 10405 - 100th Avenue, 4th Floor, Edmonton, Alta., T5J 0A6. Fee \$3.00.

British Columbia: Although civil registration officially began in 1872, early records are incomplete. Some baptismal records date back to 1849. The originals or copies are held by the Division of Vital Statistics, Ministry of Health, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4. Fees: certificate, \$5.00 (including search); search, \$2.00 (3-year period).

Yukon Territory: Vital Statistics, Government of the Yukon Territory, PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Y.T., Y1A 2C6, holds some birth records for 1898, an index of births ca. 1900-1924 and complete records from 1924. Fee \$5.00.

North West Territories: Complete records date from 1925. Address inquiries to the Registrar of Vital Statistics, PO Box 1320, Yellow-knife, N.W.T., X1A 2L9. Fee \$3.00.

These authorities vary considerably in the services provided for genealogists. Fees quoted are valid for 1981. Copies of records can be obtained by the individuals immediately concerned, or by their next-of-kin. Researchers should remember that compliance with the laws requiring civil registration was irregular as late as the 1920s in rural districts, through unfamiliarity with the law. Minor errors in dates and divergent spelling of names may also cause difficulties.

Acadian Sources

Gaudet's Notes, the bulk of which are in our possession constitute the main source for purely

Acadian genealogy; they were compiled by Placide Gaudet from various sources, not all of which are in the Public Archives. It should be stressed that these notes, although a most helpful source, must not be considered in any way as official records. The information given generally consists of birth, marriage and death dates together with the name of the relevant parish. The *Notes* are available on microfilm.

Church Records - Parish Registers

. For these numerous and useful sources to be of any use to the genealogist, the name of the denomination and the parish or mission district must be known. Inquirers then may write to the clergyman or priest of the particular parish in which they are interested. The Archives is unable to direct the researcher to local churches or their records. In general, the researcher may expect to find such details as dates of birth, baptism, marriage and burial, as well as names of parents and godparents in these records.

The Public Archives of Canada holds some original parish registers, as well as transcript and microfilm copies of others. This collection is by no means comprehensive, even for a region. The published Checklist of Parish Registers lists all the registers which are available on microfilm (including originals and transcripts), with notation of the dates covered and the numbers. John Coderre and Paul Lavoie went beyond the coverage of this Checklist to include published indexes and parish registers held by the Archives Library in their List. Unfortunately, many users of that guide fail to note that the published materials are not available on interlibrary loan from the Public Archives; only microfilm holdings can be borrowed. Other parish registers can be located in the various provincial archives as well as in archives maintained by the Anglican, Catholic, United and other churches.

Adoption Records

Adoptions fall within the jurisdiction of provincial authorities. Access to the records is restricted to protect the confidentiality of information contained therein. Persons attempting to trace the ancestry of an adoptee would be best advised to work with or through an association specializing in such searches.

Marriage Bonds

Marriage bonds were prepared only in the case of marriages by licence; they offer little genealogical information beyond the names of the engaged parties, place of residence and date of the bond. The Public Archives has marriage bonds for Quebec, 1779 and 1818-1867, and for Ontario, 1803-1845. Both series have been indexed. The indexes and the bonds will be available on microfilm from the autumn of 1981. Please note that New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and other provinces controlled marriages within their jurisdictions and that the resultant bonds and other licensing records are in the respective provincial archives.

Cemetery Recordings

When place of burial is known, a headstone may be found with an inscription offering personal data. Genealogical societies have been transcribing inscriptions, arranging them alphabetically or indexing them, and depositing copies of their reports in archives. Parts of our collection of these reports on Ontario cemeteries are available on microfilm. To inquire about our holdings, the town or township must be known; the religious denomination is also helpful.

Native Peoples

Record Group 10 contains documents accumulated by the old British Indian Department, some dating back to the mid-eighteenth century, and of the various agencies which have been responsible for Indian Affairs since Confederation. Information of genealogical value is relatively uncommon in the early years. From the mid-nineteenth century onward, band membership lists and treaty pay lists offer useful data. However, the confidentiality of many financial and personal records within the files is protected by access restrictions. Researchers with justifiable need to consult the restricted material require prior authorization from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

As yet, the Public Archives of Canada has received no transfers of genealogical documentation relating to the Inuit.

LAND RECORDS

The British North America Act established Crown Lands as a provincial responsibility, together with the documentation created to record land titles. The federal government retained possession of only the original petitions for land grants submitted to the Executive Council in Upper and Lower Canada prior to 1867. With the acquisition of Rupert's Land in 1869, western lands came under federal control. In 1930, responsibility for Crown Lands was transferred to the provincial governments of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The federal government retained a copy of the original grants issued for these lands. A card index by legal land description (section, township and range) provides limited access to these grant records.

Land Petitions

In order to obtain Crown land early settlers were required to submit petitions to the Governor stating their claims to land grants. Many of them were Loyalists, who had borne arms or otherwise served the British cause during the American Revolution, or were descendants of Loyalists. Land petitions are often a helpful genealogical source, since they frequently give information on the petitioner's family, antecedents and country of origin, military service, and sometimes give striking accounts of experiences during the American Revolutionary War or the War of 1812. Rarely do land petitions specify the region or locality whence an immigrant came. The petition will not indicate the location of a grant, as the assignment of a location was made at a later stage in the land granting process. Records created by the Surveyor General held by the relevant provincial archives will identify the location.

The Public Archives of Canada holds land petitions for Quebec and Lower Canada, 1764-1841, and for Upper Canada and the united Province of Canada, 1791-1867. Both series have been indexed and microfilmed. The index for Upper Canada and the Province of Canada is available on microfilm; the index for Quebec and Lower Canada is being filmed (summer 1981). Microfilm loan requests should specify the surname of interest.

Métis Land Claims

A complex series of legislation, beginning with the Manitoba Act of 1870 and ending in 1924, provided for the settlement of claims arising from aboriginal rights to land in western Canada. The "Métis" land claims resulting from this legislation are arranged alphabetically by name of claimant and offer genealogists a variety of information about the claimants.

Patents, Deeds and Other Records of Land Titles

Most records of land grants offer less help to genealogists than do petitions. The patent or deed, or registration of it, will give only a description of the location, acreage, name of grantee and date of confirmation of title. The provincial governments are responsible for retaining a copy or registry of the original title deed recording the initial transfer of ownership of Crown Land. Registration of subsequent transfers of title is generally the responsibility of land registry offices in each district or county, specifically that in which the land is located. These offices can be identified by consulting government telephone directory listings and almanacs for the provinces. In some regions, the boundaries of districts may have altered with the expansion of settlement, with new districts and offices being established over the years.

Authorities concerned with the registration of land grants and subsequent transfers of title are listed below by province. Not all of these authorities provide genealogical services. Many registry offices charge a fee for conducting a search and providing copies of documents.

Newfoundland: The Registry of Crown Grants, Department of Mines, Agriculture and Resources, Confederation Building, St. John's, Nfld., A1C 5T7 holds registers of initial grants of Crown lands, while the records of subsequent transactions are with the Registry of Deeds, Confederation Building, St. John's, Nfld., A1C 5T7. No petitions have been located within the holdings of the provincial archives.

Nova Scotia: Copies of all original land grants are held by the Crown Lands Office, Department of Lands and Forests, Halifax, N.S., B3J 2T9. The Public Archives of Nova Scotia,

also holds copies of land grants, interfiled with the petitions for grants. The series has been indexed. Records of subsequent transactions are held by the district Registry of Deeds.

Prince Edward Island: The provincial archives holds microfilm copies of all land title registrations prior to 1900; records after that date are held by the Registrar of Deeds, Charlottetown. As the land was originally held by a small number of proprietors, few petitions were ever submitted.

New Brunswick: The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick holds land petitions covering the years 1785-1850. Both the series and the index to it have been microfilmed and are available on interlibrary loan. Registrations of original Crown grants are in the custody of the Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 6000, Fredericton, N.B., E3B 5H1. The Provincial Archives has a microfilm of the records of subsequent transactions held by the local registry offices, not available on loan. Requests for photocopies should be directed to the registry office in the appropriate county.

Québec: A list of Crown grants, 1763-1890 arranged by townships within counties and indexed by grantees, was published in 1891 by order of the Quebec Legislature. The records are preserved in the Service de l'enregistrement des documents de l'État, 1200 route de l'Église, Sainte-Foy, Qué., G1V 4M1. Records of subsequent transactions are the responsibility of the Ministère de la Justice, operating through the Bureaux d'Enregistrement of the various judicial districts.

Ontario: Copies of land grants can be obtained from the Recording Office, Ministry of Government Services, 3rd Floor, Hearst Block, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ont., M7A 1N3 at a fee of \$2.50. Correspondence relating to grants, leases, disputed titles and other questions ("Township Papers") is in the custody of the Ontario Archives. Arrangement of these papers by lot and concession number within each township facilitates consultation of them. Over sixty Land Registry Offices record subsequent transactions in the southern Counties and northern Districts.

Manitoha: Homestead records and applications dating from 1872 are held by the Crown

Lands Branch, Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management, Room 600, Westrow Industrial Mall, 1495 St. James Street, Winnipeg, Man., R3H 0W9. Subsequent transfers of title are recorded in the eight district Land Titles Offices.

Saskatchewan: The Saskatchewan Archives, Saskatoon Office, holds an alphabetical index of applicants for homesteads prior to 1930 and other homestead records. Copies of the patents for grants and records of subsequent transactions are located in the Land Titles Offices in 8 districts.

Alberta: Homestead records are deposited with the provincial archives in Edmonton. Subsequent transactions will be recorded with the North Alberta Land Registration District (Land Titles Building, 100 Street and 102A Avenue, Edmonton, Alta.) or the South Alberta Land Registration District (PO Box 7575, Calgary, Alta.).

British Columbia: Applications to pre-empt or purchase Crown lands and applications for homesteads are deposited in the Provincial Archives. Indexing of these records is in progress. The Crown grants and some related records are held by the Lands Branch, Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4. Copies of Crown grants and records of subsequent transactions can be obtained from the seven district Land Registry Offices.

Yukon Territory: Land records, dating from 1899, are held by the Registrar of Land Titles, Whitehorse, Y.T., Y1A 2C6.

North West Territories: Inquiries regarding land grants and transfer of titles can be directed to the Registrar of Titles, North West Territories Land Registration District, Yellow-knife, N.W.T., XOE 1HO.

Assessment Rolls

Assessment rolls may be located when place of residence is known. Local tax offices prepare and keep assessment rolls for the residents within their jurisdiction. The procedure and information contained in the rolls varies from one province to another. The information may in

clude name of owner or tenant of the particular property, year of birth, religious denomination, occupation, number of people in the household and nature and value of the buildings. Assessment rolls are considered permanent records, but the extent to which they have been preserved varies widely. When available, they are open to the public, particularly when they have been deposited in municipal, county or provincial archives.

ESTATE RECORDS

Estate records include wills and testaments, inventories of property, letters of administration, letters of probate, trusteeships and guardianships, bonds and depositions, and a variety of correspondence. Wills are obviously of great interest to the genealogist. The will or letter of administration for an estate should be sought in the records of the court in which the estate was probated. Use of the terms Probate and Surrogate Court varies from province to province, as does the arrangement of judicial districts.

Newfoundland: Records of probated estates are held by the Registry Office of the Supreme Court, Court House, Duckworth Street, St. John's, Nfld., A1C 5V5. A fee is charged for each search and the date must be known.

Nova Scotia: The Registry of Probate in each county is responsible for all records of the settlement of estates. The Public Archives of Nova Scotia holds microfilm copies of probate records, complete for all counties to about 1900, some of which contain indexes.

Prince Edward Island: Probate Court records in the custody of the provincial archives cover the period 1815-1933.

New Brunswick: The Provincial Archives has both probate files, with the will or letter of administration and supporting documentation, and probate books (registers), which are indexed. An on-going microfilming programme will make them available for interlibrary loan.

Québec: Wills are customarily passed before notaries, who are required by law to retain a copy. On retirement of the notary or no more than 50 years after his death, his tiles (or greffe) are sent to the Court House of the judicial district in which he practiced. Holograph wills are also deposited in the Court House. Copies of wills can be obtained from the Judicial Archives of the district, from the notary who drew it up, or from the successor who retained his greffe. The notarial files may contain other documents related to the settlement of an estate.

Ontaxio: The Ontario Archives holds the registers, indexes and files of the Court of Probate which functioned from 1791 to 1859. It also has acquired the original files or microfilm of the records of the Surrogate Court, complete from 1793 to 1900. The central index of estate files begun by the Surrogate Clerk in 1859 is arranged alphabetically within each year and permits the Ontario Archives to locate the files within its holdings or not yet transferred from district court authorities.

Manitoba: Records of probate are held by the Surrogate Court in each judicial district.

Saskatchewan: Inquiries should be addressed to the Surrogate Clerk, Regina Court House, 2428 Victoria Avenue, Regina, Sask., S4P 3V7. A minimum charge of \$2.00 is made for each search.

Alberta: Inquiries about probate records should be addressed to the Alberta Attorney General, Madison Building, 9919 - 105 Street, Edmonton, Alta., T5K 2E8.

British Columbia: Records of probate are held by the Registrar of the Supreme Court, 850 Burdett Avenue, Victoria, B.C., V8W 1B4.

Yukon Territory: Estate records form part of the Public Administrator's files, deposited in the Yukon Archives at Whitehorse.

North West Territories: Probate records are in the custody of the Supreme Court of the Territories at Yellowknife. Some records of the administration of intestate estates are held by the Public Trustee, Government of the North West Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T., XOE 1HO.

MILITARY AND NAVAL RECORDS

Detailed personnel records for the Canadian militia were not kept until this century. Detailed service records relating to British naval and military personnel are not generally available in Canada but may be located amongst records of the Admiralty and War Office at the Public Record Office, London. Personnel files of members of the Canadian Armed Forces who served in World War I, World War II and the Korean conflict are retained at the National Personnel Records Centre of the Public Archives. Copies of these records are available to the individuals concerned through use of a Record Access Request Form, as detailed in the Index of Federal Information Banks (see page 32). On proof of an individual's death and the relationship, immediate family members (parent, spouse, sibling or child) may obtain limited information from the Centre by means of the request form.

For the French régime, information can be located regarding officers but not for common soldiers and sailors, nor for the militia. The few files which can be located are scattered through a variety of collections. There is no central list or index of names.

Record Group 8, Series I (formerly the "C Series") is composed of records accumulated by the office of the Commander of the Forces, British North America. The core of the records dates from after the American Revolutionary War and is formed by documentation relating to regular units on the establishment of the British Army. Researchers will also find here muster rolls of some Loyalist units and records of some Canadian militia units raised during the War of 1812 and the Rebellion of 1837-1838. Records of the Provincial Marine and the Admiralty Lake Service are found in Series III. Only Series I has been microfilmed, together with the card index which describes it.

Records accumulated by the Adjutants General of Militia in Upper and Lower Canada and by the Department of Militia and Defence after Confederation form Record Group 9. They include militia pay lists for service during the War of 1812 and from 1855 to 1914.

Militia pay lists and muster rolls are organized by regimental unit (usually co-terminous with the county), which must be known before a search can be undertaken in RG 9 or elsewhere. Information to be found on the lists includes details of length and place of service, citations and awards, pay and termination of service. Record Group 9 is not generally available on microfilm. Our holdings of service records for British regiments (in MG 13) are less complete. War Office 13 (available on microfilm) includes muster rolls and pay lists for militia and volunteers serving during the Rebellion of 1837-1838. War Office 17 (available on microfilm) contains monthly returns of officers, arranged by regiment. It should also be noted that the provincial archives of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba and Newfoundland have a few scattered military records of this sort.

War of 1812 medal registers are in RG 8, while medal registers for the militia awards made following the Fenian Raids, Red River and North West Rebellions and the South African (Boer) War are in RG 9. The registers covering 1866-1902 are available on microfilm. The index, including the War of 1812 registers, is also available on microfilm.

Three series of claims relating to military events are worthy of special notice. The War of 1812 Losses Claims (in RG 19) cover requests for compensation for financial losses sustained as a result of American incursions into Upper Canada, 1812-1814, whether caused by the Americans or the British Army and its Indian allies. The numbered claims are generally arranged by district, with lists of claimants serving as a means of access to the files. The complete series of losses claims, with internal indexes, is available on microfilm. A nominal index is also available. The Rebellion Losses Claims submitted following the insurrections of 1837-1838 in Lower Canada form a numbered series (in RG 19). They have not been indexed. The Fenian Raids Bounty Claims of militia veterans also form a numbered sequence (in RG 9), provided with a card index. The index is available only on microfilm. The information provided is scanty: name, regiment, periods of service and address at the time of submitting the claim. As only those veterans who were living at the time of passage of the Fenian Raids Bounty Act in 1912 were entitled to submit a claim, the coverage of these records is extremely incomplete.

The records of the Department of Veterans Affairs (in RG 38), contain service records for the South African War and applications for land grants made by veterans under the Volunteer Bounty Act of 1908. Both have been indexed. The service records exist for most of those who volunteered for service with the Canadian contingents. They include enlistment papers which provide such personal information as age, occupation, next of kin and a physical description. Applications for land grants give the veteran's address at the time and information about his service in South Africa. There are no service files for the men who served with the South African Constabulary. Additional documentation, including nominal rolls, applications for service and correspondence relating to casualties can be found in the records of the Department of Militia and Defence (RG 9).

IMMIGRATION RECORDS

Extensive searches in Canada and Great Britain have failed to bring to light comprehensive nominal lists of immigrants arriving in Canada prior to 1865. Only a few widely scattered lists have been found, generally for subsidized emigration schemes from Great Britain. A large proportion of these are found in the series Colonial Office 384. An index to those lists for the years 1817-1831 is available on microfilm (reel C-4252). The lists provide names, former residence, occupation and date of entry, and can themselves be consulted on microfilm.

For the French régime, passenger lists are relatively uncommon, though a few can be found scattered throughout the series of records. None are indexed. Some lists have been printed in various genealogical publications. Employment contracts (engage ments) are another source offering information of some value to the genealogist in those cases for which they exist.

Ship captains were not required by law to keep detailed passenger lists prior to 1865. In the early years, such lists were created only as proof of passage monies paid by a sponsor. There are also a few scattered lists of persons who received accommodation and assistance from charitable societies in Montreal and other centres in the mid-nineteenth century.

The Public Archives has microfilm copies of passenger manifests for ships arriving at certain ports, as noted below:

Quebec City	1865-1908
Halifax	1880-1908
Saint John	1900-1908
Victoria	1905-1908
Vancouver	1905-1908
via U.S. ports:	
Boston, Baltimore,	
New York, Portland	
and Philadelphia	1905-1908

These manifests contain much genealogical information: the name, age, occupation and intended destination of passengers. However, to locate a record of arrival it is necessary in most cases to know the passenger's name at time of arrival, the exact date and port of arrival and the ship's name. Efforts to prepare an index have not yet gone beyond the years 1865-1869 for Quebec City and 1880-1881 for Halifax.

The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission Department has comprehensive records of immigrants arriving at Canadian ports from 1908. Access to the post-1910 records is granted only with the permission of the immigrant or on proof of his/her death. Inquiries should be addressed to Records of Entry Unit, Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, Place du Portage, Phase IV, Hull, Qué., K1A 039.

The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission Department also has lists of immigrants coming from or through the United States dated from 1908, but the border point of entry and the approximate date of arrival must be provided before a search can be made. No lists of emigrants to the U.S. were kept.

Immigrants from China

Ten headquarters registers of Chinese immigrants, 1885-1903, are available on microfilm. The entries are arranged numerically by serial number and declaration number, in approximately chronological order. The Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, Chinese Records Section, has extensive nominal files for Chinese immigrants, many of which contain genealogies.

Immigrants from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka (Ceylon)

The register of immigrants admitted under quota agreements with India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, 1951-1965, lists the names annually by quota numbers. Details provided include occupation, family relationship, country of origin and date of entry.

RECORDS OF NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

The Canadian Citizenship Act came into force I January 1947. From 1763 to that date, persons born in the provinces and colonies of British North America were all British subjects. Being of equal status, immigrants from Great Britain and the Commonwealth were not required to be naturalized.

Naturalization appears not to have been a matter for concern prior to the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Immigrants swore an oath of allegiance when obtaining a grant of Crown land but no other formal process existed. An Act of 1828 required the keeping of a Naturalization Register in each county of Upper Canada and specified the residency requirement. As British subjects were exempt from the oath, in many years the entries in the registers are conspicuous by their absence.

The Citizenship Registration Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State has records of naturalization and citizenship going back to 1865. The original records which were created prior to 1917 have been destroyed. However, the Branch maintains an index to these records. This index contains information of value to genealogists such as name, residence, court of certification, occupation, etc. Unfortunately these records merely give the name of the head of the family. In order to find a record of naturalization prior to 1917 it is necessary to know the full name, occupation, year of naturalization, place of residence or land descriptions of homestead.

For those records which were created after 1917, the Branch has microfilm copies. These records contain much more information, including date and place of birth, date and place of

entry into Canada, occupation, places of former residence, names of members of the family, etc. The key to locating a record after 1917 is the full name and the date and place of birth of the person. A fee is charged for each search conducted by the Citizenship Registration Branch, Secretary of State Department, 15 Eddy Street, Hull, Qué., KIA 0M5.

LOYALIST SOURCES

Genealogical sources relating specifically to Loyalists merit special attention. Many of the general sources described elsewhere will also be useful in a search for Loyalist ancestors. Several attempts have been made to prepare guides or inventories for these sources, but results have been uneven and no definitive listing has been produced.

Ontario is the sole province for which there is a Loyalist List. Regun in 1796, the List was maintained in two contemporary copies by staff of the Crown Lands Office and the Executive Council, with certain discrepancies between them. The original Council Office "U E List" and a transcript of the Crown Lands list appear on our microfilm reel C-2222. The version printed in the Centennial of the settlement of Upper Canada by the United Empire Loyalists in 1885 from the Crown Lands original appears on our microfilm reel C-1476.

Claims for compensation for losses sustained and services rendered by Loyalists and the proceedings of the investigating commissioners are preserved in the Public Record Office, London, under the titles Audit Office 12 and 13. It must be emphasized that only a small proportion of the Loyalists had the financial resources necessary to document and submit a claim. Researchers fortunate enough to locate a claim will find in it information about place of former residence, occupation, professional income, property values, number and names of dependants and details of military service. Both series are available on microfilm. The indexes, the volume (109) which summarizes decisions on claims, and some explanatory notes about consulting the claims on microfilm, appear on our microfilm reel C-9821.

Among the papers of Sir Frederick Haldimand in the British Library are several volumes of provisions lists and muster rolls which detail the names of Loyalists and the numbers of their dependants. Transcript copies of these volumes, complete with index, appear on our microfilm reel C-1475.

Muster rolls of Loyalist regiments contained in both RG 8 and War Office 28 can be consulted on microfilm. Both are covered by the index to RG 8 (also on microfilm). Other muster rolls are found scattered through several other collections, such as the Ward Chipman papers (also on microfilm) but have not been indexed so the regiment must be known before a search can be undertaken. The provincial archives of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick also have a few scattered muster rolls.

FEDERAL INFORMATION BANKS

Part IV of the Canadian Human Rights Act gives individual Canadians the right to know whether particular "federal information banks" contain information on them and to review, with some exceptions, whatever information exists. In some cases, individual Canadians doing genealogical research on their own families may be able to obtain some information from these sources.

The best guide to these sources and to the procedures to be followed in gaining access is the Index of Federal Information Banks, published annually by the Treasury Board of The table of contents to the Index identifies the various government institutions holding information banks. Instructions on how to gain access to these banks are given at the beginning of each institution's section in the Index. One such information bank is the Social Insurance Number (SIN) Registration Bank held by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission. It contains a microfilm image of each approved application for issuance of a Social Insurance Number, for issuance of a replacement SIN card or for an amendment of the Social Insurance Register records. Some 22 million such microfilm records are in this bank. Information in the individual records comprises the applicant's name, sex, date and place of birth, marital status, mother's maiden name, father's given name, and status in Canada. The microfilm image also shows the applicant's address at the time of application and, at the applicant's option, name and address of employer. This data is retained for an indefinite period.

ADDRESSES OF PRINCIPAL ARCHIVES

Public Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ont., K1A ON3 - phone 613-995 5138

Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador, Colonial Building, Military Road, St. John's, Nfld., A1C 5T7 - phone 709 - 753 9390

Public Archives of Nova Scotia, 6016 University Avenue, Halifax, N.S., B3H 1W4 - phone 902 -423 9115

Public Archives of Prince Edward Island, PO Box 7000, Charlottetown, P.E.I., C1A 7M4 - phone 902 - 892 7949

Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, PO Box 6000, Fredericton, N.B., E3B 5H1 - phone 506 - 453 2637

Archives nationales du Québec, PO Box 10450, Sainte-Foy, Qué., G1V 4N1 - phone 418 - 643 2167

Archives of Ontario, 77 Grenville Street, Oueen's Park, Toronto, Ont., M7A 2R9 - phone 416 -965 4030

Provincial Archives of Manitoba, 200 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg, Man., R3C 0P8 - phone 204 -944 3971

Saskatchewan Archives Board, Regina Office, University of Regina, Regina, Sask., S4S 0A2 phone 306 - 565 4068; and Saskatoon Office, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Sask., S7N 0W0 - phone 306 -664 5832

Provincial Archives of Alberta, 12845 - 102 Avenue, Edmonton, Alta., T5N 0M6 - phone 403 -427 1750

Provincial Archives of British Columbia, 655 Belleville Street, Victoria, B.C., V8V 1X4 -phone 604 - 387 5885

Yukon Archives, PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Y.T., Y1A 2C6 - phone 403 - 667 5321

Archives of the Northwest Territories, Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, Yellowknife, N.W.T., X1A 2L9 - phone 403 - 873 7698



